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**BNSF**



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**VIA UPS OVERNIGHT MAIL**

November 21, 2002

Mr. Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

ENTERED  
Office of Proceedings  
NOV 22 2002  
Part of  
Public Record



**Re: Surface Transportation Board Docket No. AB-6 (Sub-No. 395X); The  
Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Company (BNSF) Abandonment  
between Columbus, Kansas and Carthage, Missouri**

Dear Secretary Williams:

Please reference a Board decision served on June 21, 2002, in the above-referenced docket. A notice of interim trail use ("NITU") and a public use condition (until December 19, 2002) were issued to enable any state or local government agency, or other interested person to negotiate the acquisition of the line. BNSF is in negotiations with a trail organization at this time and has determined that we will need additional time to finalize a potential trail transaction. Therefore, BNSF respectfully requests an extension of the NITU for an additional 180 day period (through June 17, 2003).

Sincerely,

*Sarah Whitley Bailiff*

Sarah Whitley Bailiff

SWB/js

cc: Charles Montange (Joplin Trail Coalition)  
Richard Batie